

REMARKS

New Power of Attorney

The Examiner's attention is directed to the recently submitted power of attorney and the associated change in correspondence address. The Examiner is requested to confirm that the correct correspondence address (associated with Customer Number 24112) is now associated with this case.

Objection to Specification

Applicants have amended the Abstract as indicated by the Examiner, and therefore request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Allowed Claim 20

Applicants note with appreciation that claim 20 is allowed. Accordingly, this claim is not discussed further herein.

Claim Rejections

The Examiner rejects claims 1-19 under §102(e) over Kanenari and/or under §103 over a variety of cited art. In response, Applicants have canceled claims 1-19 and added claims 21-31. The subject matter of these added claims is fully supported by the original application, and the added claims do not contain new matter.

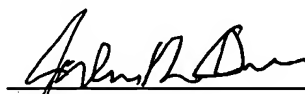
Independent claim 21 requires that the photo-luminescent section and the reflective section be located on the wheel, with the reflective section being concentrically located with respect to the photo-luminescent section. One form of this

arrangement is shown in Figure 4 of the application, and discussed in the text accompanying Figure 4. Assuming *arguendo* that the various cited art teach or suggest a photo-luminescent section excited by a light carried on the relevant vehicle, Applicants can find no suggestion in such art for the concentric arrangement of photo-luminescent section(s) and reflective section(s) as claimed. Applicants note that claim 15 (now canceled) included a limitation directed at an "adjacent ring" structure, and that the Examiner rejected claim 15 under §103 over Kanenari in view of Majumdar and LeFranc. However, Applicants note that Kanenari's photo-luminescent and reflective sections, assuming *arguendo* that they are present as suggested by the Examiner, are disposed so that the inner layer can only be viewed through the outer layer. See Kanenari Figure 2, showing inner layer b fully covered by either black (main tire) layer 6 or layer a. Thus, there simply is no part of the inner layer b that is visually seen when the tire is viewed from the side, except through layer a. The only way the inner layer can be seen without layer a in the way is by slicing open the tire to show a cross-section. Thus, Kanenari does not show the structure as claimed. Further, while Applicants will assume *arguendo* that Majumdar and LeFranc each show "rings," Applicants submit that there is no teaching in either of these references to use multiple rings that are visually separated, nor any other concentric arrangement. Thus, there simply is no suggestion in the Kanenari or the other cited art to make the Kanenari layers into visually distinct concentric sections. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Kanenari, Majumdar, and LeFranc, assuming *arguendo* that such combination is proper, would teach or suggest the claimed invention of claim 21. In addition, Applicants note that claim 21 requires UV light emitted by an LED. The

resulting combination is novel and non-obvious over the cited art, and allowance is requested. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 21, and its dependent claims 22-26, define patentable subject matter over the cited art.

Independent claim 27 requires that the photo-luminescent sections and the reflective sections be located on the wheel, with the reflective sections disposed between otherwise adjacent photo-luminescent sections. One form of this arrangement is shown in Figure 1 of the application, with the reflective and photo-luminescent sections forming an alternating pattern. Assuming *arguendo* that the various cited art teach or suggest a photo-luminescent section excited by a light carried on the relevant vehicle, Applicants can find no suggestion in such art for the arrangement of photo-luminescent section(s) and reflective section(s) as claimed. In addition, Applicants note that claim 27 requires UV light emitted by an LED. The resulting combination is novel and non-obvious over the cited art, and allowance is requested. Accordingly, Applicants submit that independent claim 27, and its dependent claims 28-31, define patentable subject matter over the cited art.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: June 28, 2005